

**THE GHOST AND MOLLY MCGEE**

"SONGKRAN SURPRISE"

525B-308 - Outline

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**INT. MCGEE HOME - KITCHEN - DAY**

MOLLY playfully squirts water at SCRATCH as he joins the MCGEES at the breakfast table. Molly: "Happy Songkran, Scratch!" Scratch dries himself off with a pancake: "What's with the water, and what's Songkran?" Molly explains that Songkran is Thai New Year! Scratch is gonna LOVE it! In Thailand, people have fun water fights to wash away sins and bad luck for the new year! She points to the backyard where MOM is putting down a small food offering: "It's a time of joyous renewal when we honor our ancestors with food offerings." Scratch: "Well I do love the sound of a food offering!"

Mom re-enters as Molly continues: "And now that Nin is in Brighton, she can celebrate with us!" Mom freezes, and she slowly turns to the kids with fear: "Kids... I never told you this, but Nin takes the Songkran water fight a little... how should I put this?" BAM! Mom is hit in the face with a water balloon as a shadow darts past the doorway!

Mom's eyes go wide as she flips over a table for cover. Nin is here! Normally Thai New Year is super fun, but...growing up, Nin took the cleansing-sins-with-water part *extremely* seriously. She would soak everyone in the neighborhood but somehow always managed to stay dry -- they called her *The Desert*. And now that Nin lives in Brighton, *The Desert* is coming for them all.

BAM! BAM! BAM! The family is pelted with more water balloons as a blur whizzes past the window. Nin calls to them: "I'm washing away your sins! This is out of love!" Mom yells to the family to follow as she army crawls into--

**INT. MCGEE HOME - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The family crams underneath the coffee table as Mom grits her teeth: "This is the year I'm finally going to soak Nin!" Nin is on Mom's home turf, so Mom should finally have the advantage. She calls out to Nin: "I'm coming for you, Mom! So get ready for a wonderful new year!" Nin yells back: "Try your best, Sharon! *The Desert* always stays dry!" BAM! BAM! BAM! Water Balloons splash onto the coffee table. Darryl: "EVERY MCGEE FOR THEMSELVES!"

Scratch watches the McGees scatter in all directions -- Molly trips over herself, Dad throws himself in front of the TV to protect it ("The TV isn't waterproof! I can't go back to watching shows on my laptop! Oh geez, don't hit the laptop!"), and Darryl flips his hood up for protection. Only Mom gets away gracefully. Scratch: "These people have no chance against Nin! I need to get on the winning side!"

**EXT. MCGEE HOME - MOMENTS LATER**

Scratch flies to Nin, who has a LARGE, UNWIELDY STASH OF WATER BALLOONS. She winds up to pelt him, but he yells: "Wait! I want to join your team!" Scratch says he'll be her water boy -- he opens his mouth wide and gulps down her stash of balloons, STORING THEM ALL IN HIS BELLY. Nin raises an eyebrow. She reaches into his belly and grabs two balloons and grins. This way she'll have two hands for throwing -- they've got a deal. Now it's time to wash away some sins!

**INT. MCGEE HOME - OUTSIDE BATHROOM - LATER**

Molly peeks out of the bathroom, psyching herself up: "You got this, Molly! Get in the Songkran spirit!" She bursts out of the bathroom and hurls a balloon -- but it bounces off a wall and hits her in the face. Oof, not a great start.

Then-- BAM! A balloon hits her in the back. She whirls around as Nin zooms past. BAM! Another hit to the back! How is Nin always behind her?? Nin: "I'm like the desert sands! Everywhere at once!" Scratch: "I can poof wherever I want, and she's *still* faster than me!" Molly: "Scratch! You joined her side?!" Scratch: "Can you blame me? You always bet on the strongest horse, Molly!" Nin and Scratch disappear as--

Mom rushes in, hot on Nin's tail: "Where is she?!" She notes Molly's soaked appearance, sniffs the air, and examines Nin's wet footprints like an animal tracker: "These tracks are still fresh. I must have just missed her." Molly points Mom in the direction they went.

**INT. MCGEE HOME - VARIOUS - LATER**

A drenched Pete runs screaming through the house as Nin and Scratch chase him, balloons bursting just behind him. He leaps in front of various objects to protect them, as Nin pelts him with balloons: "Not the rural landscape paintings! They're Renaissance Faire exclusives! This cabinet is an antique! Don't make the potato chips soggy!". Scratch: "Yeah, leave the potato chips out of this!" Nin winds up to soak Dad again when--

Mom jumps in front of Pete, protective: "Got you now, Mom!" She unleashes a barrage of balloons at Nin! But Nin flips out the way, taunting Mom: "You missed! Probably because you didn't throw with your upper body like I taught you!" Nin disappears into the ceiling as Mom grits her teeth. "You can't hide from me..."

**INT. MCGEE HOME - OUTSIDE DARRYL'S ROOM - LATER**

Darryl exits his room, wearing TONS OF SHIRTS, PUFFED UP LIKE THE MICHELIN MAN. A tense moment as he looks around... Then, Nin cartwheels out from behind cover and nails him in the chest with a balloon before disappearing behind a wall! But Darryl smiles, un-phased: "Bring it on, Grandma Nin! I bulk buy my clothes by the pound from my T-shirt connection! I'm staying dry!" He peels off a layer, and is still dry underneath. Scratch is impressed: "This kid's a genius!"

But then, Nin's voice drifts down ominously from above: "Oh Darryl... You forgot one thing. Those T-shirts don't cover... YOUR HEAD!" REVEAL Nin hanging upside down from the ceiling! She nails Darryl right in the head. Darryl: "Aw, I knew I shoulda worn a hat!"

Nin drops to the ground as Mom slides out from around a corner, ready to strike: "NOWHERE TO RUN NOW!" Nin yells at Scratch: "Shield me!" Scratch: "Can I have some of your famous Khanom Buang later?" Nin: "Done!" Scratch turns himself into an ECTOPLASMIC WALL, shielding Nin as Mom hurls balloons. Nin disappears around a corner and Mom pursues into--

**INT. MCGEE HOME - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

Mom stalks through the hallway, scanning for Nin a la Ripley in Alien: "This is your year, Sharon. You can do this." She peeks into--

**INT. MCGEE HOME - GUEST ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Mom's eyes go wide when she sees Nin crouched in the room, her back turned. Aha! She must be re-stocking her balloons! Mom smiles to herself, smug: "You taught me to never turn my back on the door... But looks like you've SLIPPED UP!" Mom bursts into the room and pelts Nin-- only to reveal that "Nin" is a DURIAN AND A MOP in Nin's jacket!

Nin jumps out of the closet and soaks Mom ("I taught you to never turn your back on the door!"). Mom fumes as we go to--

***SONGBURST: "WATER FIGHT FOR YOUR LIFE." The McGees try to defend themselves, but are mercilessly soaked by Nin.***

-- Molly hurls balloon after balloon -- which all bounce off walls and objects and hit her in the face. She gives up, then holds up a PEACE TREATY -- and is soaked by Nin.

-- Pete shields his SUCCULENTS, pleading for their lives, ("Overwatering is the number one cause of plant death!")-- but takes a barrage of balloons to keep his babies safe. He goes down like Bonnie and Clyde.

-- Darryl gets hit with a ton of balloons, and we see his VARIOUS SHIRTS as he peels them off. He can hardly take a step without getting pelted. He sputters: "Why am I getting hit so much more than everyone else??" Grandma Nin: "Because you need it more than everyone else! Happy New Year, Darryl!"

-- Nin hurls balloons like a machine, her arms a blur! Scratch dabs her temple with a towel, and squirts water balloons into her mouth to keep her hydrated.

-- Mom and Nin face off like a WESTERN. Their fingers twitch by their balloons... then they explode into an EPIC DUEL. They both duck, roll, and jump as the family watches from behind the couch. Nin hurls her balloons, and we go SLOW MO as they fly through the air... and Mom dodges the balloons!

Mom can't believe it! She actually dodged Nin's balloons! Victory! She's about to throw her own balloon when Nin pulls a cord, and a bucket dumps water on Mom from the ceiling a la Home Alone. Mom is utterly defeated as we **END SONGBURST**.

#### INT. MCGEE HOME - BASEMENT - LATER

Dejected, the family regroups in the basement as their clothes tumble in the dryer. Molly, Dad, and Darryl are thoroughly soaked and miserable. Molly: "Our sins *must* be washed away by now!" Darryl: "I'm down to my last shirt! How is that possible?" Dad suggests that maybe it's time they wave the white flag and give up. He dumps an impossible amount of water out of his succulent pot.

Mom is downcast -- she was so sure that she finally had what it takes to get Nin. But apparently not. Molly asks Mom why it's so important to her to soak Nin, and Mom explains that she always thought she'd become the Desert when she was a mom. But Nin is still besting her, which makes her feel like a little kid. She just wants to prove herself as Nin's equal for once. Sadly, it looks like Nin's reign as *The Desert* will continue.

Molly tries to lighten the mood -- even though they're wet and cold, at least to they're wet and cold together! That's when Mom has a lightbulb moment. That's it! Mom might not have the skills to beat Nin alone, but she's *not* alone!

She's got family. If they work together, they may have a chance! The family agrees -- Nin's gone so many years staying dry that she's got a lot of sins and bad luck built up. This is for her own good!

**INT. MCGEE HOME - LIVING ROOM/HALLWAY - LATER**

Darryl stands in the middle of the living room and calls out "casually": "Now that I have a dry shirt, I'm ready to get up to some sinful shenanigans!" Nin peeks out from around a corner, eyeing her target.

Behind Nin, Scratch floats with his belly full of balloons when he hears: "Psst. Scratch." He turns to see Molly, whispering to him from the stairs. Scratch: "Save your breath, Molly! I'm on team Nin now! And if you want to stay dry, I suggest you get out of here!" Molly: "I just thought you might want some mango sticky rice to celebrate Songkran! But if you don't want it..." Molly starts to leave. Scratch: "Wait! I'll eat it out of respect for the holiday!"

While Scratch is distracted by the mango sticky rice, DAD LOWERS FROM THE CEILING a la *Mission Impossible* behind him and pops all of Nin's balloons inside his belly with a SPIKY SUCCULENT! Scratch: "Ooh! That tickles! Stop it!"

Nin realizes it's a trap! She turns to Scratch, furious: "You were supposed to be watching the balloons!" Scratch: "I'm sorry! I got distracted by food, which you KNEW was a risk when you started working with me!"

Mom steps out from the shadows, triumphant. All the McGees surround Scratch and Nin, balloons drawn. Nin points at Scratch: "Soak Scratch! He needs to be washed clean of sin for joining forces with the other side!" But Mom grins -- it's time for Nin to taste her own medicine. Nin stoically pulls on a SHOWER CAP. She knew this day would come, but she refuses to get her expensive hairdo wet -- that's the real reason she's tried so hard to stay dry all these years.

The family winds up... and soaks Nin and Scratch! Mom fist pumps, elated she's finally got Nin! Then Nin laughs too -- she's proud of Sharon. She taught her well, and the student has finally become the master. And besides, she could do with having all her bad luck washed away after all these years!

Mom and Nin smile... then turn to Darryl. Darryl: "Uhh, why are you both looking at me?" The family erupts in a fun free-for-all water fight, and we **END EPISODE**.